

Docket No.: 22197-00009-US

Application No. 10/052,356
Amendment dated February 1, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 11, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings.

1. (Currently amended) A coupling for a pipe, the coupling comprising: a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material, said housing having a bore therein; a retainer ~~arranged to retain~~ retaining said pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed into the housing; and a layer of a relatively deformable material ~~distinct from the retainer on molded onto~~ at least a part of both an inner surface and an outer surface of said housing, wherein said layer on said inner surface ~~is in sealing engagement with~~ deforms against an outside of said pipe to form a sealing engagement.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said layer on said inner surface provides a tapering surface.
4. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said retainer is formed integrally with said housing.
5. (Previously presented) A coupling according to claim 1, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage a projection on said pipe.
6. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 5, wherein said pipe has a corrugated external surface, and wherein said catch member is adapted to engage between said corrugations.
7. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said layer on said outer surface includes a part formed on external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member.
8. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said layer on said outer surface includes a part that provides a manual gripping region.
9. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said layer on said inner and outer surfaces is continuous with one another.

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10. (Previously presented) A coupling according to Claim 1, wherein said deformable material is an elastomeric material.

11. (Currently amended) A coupling for connecting one end of a corrugated pipe to a cooperating member, said coupling comprising: a rigid housing of tubular shape having two spring catches on opposite sides ~~arranged to engage~~ engaging between corrugations on an outside of said pipe when the pipe is pushed within the coupling; and a continuous layer of a deformable material, distinct from said spring catches and bonded with both an inside and outside of said housing to form an internal, tapering sealing surface which deforms against and forms a seal with the cooperating member, wherein the deformable material also forms adapted to seal with an outside of said pipe, an external annular sealing member, adapted to seal with the cooperating member, and an external gripping region.

12. (Currently amended) An assembly comprising a corrugated pipe and a coupling, the coupling comprising: a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material, said housing having a bore therein; retaining means ~~arranged to retain~~ retaining said pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed within the coupling; and a layer of a relatively deformable material distinct from the retaining means and molded onto at least a part of both an inner surface and an outer surface of said housing, wherein said layer on said inside inner surface deforms against ~~forms a seal with an~~ outside surface of said pipe in said bore, and thereby forms a seal with the outside surface of said pipe.

13. (Currently amended) A method of forming a coupling comprising the steps of: injecting a first material of a relatively hard plastics material to form a housing of said coupling with an integral retainer; and subsequently injecting a second, softer, deformable material to form a layer on said harder material both on an inside and outside of said housing, wherein said deformable material is distinct from said integral retainer, and wherein said layer on said inside of said housing surrounds said integral retainer and deforms into ~~is in~~ sealing engagement with an outside of a pipe when the pipe is pushed into the housing.

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14. (Previously presented) A coupling according to claim 1, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member to engage a projection on said pipe.

15. (Previously presented) A coupling according to claim 3, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage a projection on said pipe.

16. (Previously presented) A coupling according to claim 4, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage a projection on said pipe.